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# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1896.

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## A CENTRAL WISCONSIN BASELEVEL.

THE crystalline rocks of central Wisconsin north of the Potsdam sandstone, in the district including Grand Rapids, Stevens Point, Mosinee, Wausau, Marshfield, Merrill, and other towns, are of a very complex character.\* In the southern part of the district is found a large area of the typical rocks of the Archean. North of this is an area composed of sedimentary and igneous rocks belonging to the Huronian. The igneous rocks have the greatest variety, including plutonic and volcanic varieties, as well as basic, acid, and intermediate facies. The whole region is one of intense folding and metamorphism. The schistosity of the rocks is at most places nearly vertical, and the beds of quartzite on Big Rib and Mosinee hills are on end.

Notwithstanding the complicated folding and great variety of rocks, resulting in different resisting powers, there is in this district as nearly perfect a baseleveled plain as it has been my good fortune to see. One of the most convenient localities in which to see this plain is near Mosinee. Following the wagon road which is east of the Wisconsin river a short distance south, so as to get above the valley of the Wisconsin, an almost perfect plain is seen to the northwest, west, south and east, large areas of which are but little dissected by any of

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Prof. J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

\* See Geology of Wisconsin, Vol. IV., pp. 623-714; also Pl. I., Geol. Atlas of Wis.